AS Psychology SUMMER PREPARATION WORK Introduction to key terms and concepts



Psychology

YOU NEED TO PRINT AND COMPLETE THIS BOOKLET. It must be completed and brought to your first Psychology lesson. Failure to do so will result in you losing your place on the course. This is compulsory!!

There are a number of key terms and concepts to be learnt in order to help you understand the content of both AS modules, as soon as possible. Your teachers will take you through these key terms and concepts throughout the course but you need to be familiar with them prior to starting in September. Inside the booklet you will find some activities and some spaces for note taking. You will need to complete the activities/notes in this booklet before your understanding is assessed through the first of your key assessments. Your understanding of the content of this booklet will be assessed via a multiple choice test during the second week of the course. You need to complete this booklet using the relevant information found on <u>www.holah.co.uk</u> You will find a lot of the information you need in the investigations and themes sections.

SAMPLING (See the self-report section on Investigations)



Match the key terms to their definitions

Sample	The whole group of people whom the researcher is	
	interested in.	
Random sample	The group of people that are selected to take part in	
	the research.	
Stratified sample	The method used to select the sample e.g. opportunity, random, self-selected.	
Self-selected sample	A sample selected so that it accurately reflects the	
	target population.	
Sampling method	The extent to which the findings of a particular study	
	can be applied to the target population.	
Representative	Every member of the target population has an equal	
sample	chance of being selected to be in the sample e.g. all	
	names are put in a hat and the required sample is	
	drawn from it.	
Systematic sample	This is where people volunteer to take part in a piece of research by responding to some form of advert.	
Generalisability	The researcher simply uses the people that are	
	present at the time at which the research is being	
	conducted.	
Androcentric	Where groups of participants are selected in	
	proportion to their frequency in the target population	
	in order to obtain a representative sample.	
Opportunity sample	This is where a researcher selects every n th person	
	from a list of the target population.	
Target population	Where research is dominated by/centred on males e.g.	
	male sampling bias.	
Snowball sample	ask a participant who fits your target population to	
	tell their friends about the study and ask them to get	
	in touch with the researcher and so on.	

Which sampling method has been used in the following examples?

- 1) A student selected his sample by going to the sixth-form common room and asking the first 20 people he saw to complete a questionnaire.
- 2) A researcher put the names of everyone in a school in a hat and drew out 50 names.
- 3) A researcher advertises for participants in a newspaper.

ETHICS (See ethics in the themes section)

An ethical issue is a conflict between what the researcher wants and the rights of participants – it is a conflict about what is acceptable.

Ethics are a set of guidelines which psychologists carrying out research should follow.

The following list includes a summary of the ethical criteria proposed by the British Psychological Society for the conduct of research. The British Psychological Society issued revised ethical principles in June 1990. In the conduct of their research, psychologists should always consider the following;

Ethical issue	Definition/explanation
Consent	
Confidentiality	
Deception	
Debriefing	
Protection of participants	
Observational research	
Withdrawal	

In one study, psychologists investigated invasion of personal space by conducting a field experiment in a urinal. There were three conditions: a confederate stood either immediately next to a participant or one urinal away, or was absent. The experimenter recorded micturation times (how long they took to pee) as an indication of how comfortable the participant felt. Is it ETHICAL to observe people in such a place?

Refer to the ethical issues you have been taught and for each one, highlight whether they are issues in the above example, if so, explain why.



SELF-REPORTS (See self-reports in the investigations section)

Definition	Advantage	Disadvantage
Open question		
Closed question		
Qualitative data		
Quantitative data		
Questionnaire		
Structured interview		
Unstructured interview		

Demand characteristic refers to...

Social desirability refers to...

QUESTIONNAIRE D very often often sometimes Rarely

VARIABLES AND HYPOTHESES (See experiments in investigations section)

A ______ is anything of relevance in a study that can vary or change. There are a number of different variables. The variable which is directly manipulated by an experimenter in order to test its effect on another variable is known as the ______ variable. The ______ variable is the component that is measured to see the possible effect of the IV.

A ______ is a testable statement which establishes what you think the relationship between two variables is. For an experiment, the ______ would state how one variable (the ______ variable) is likely to affect another variable (the ______ variable).

Hypotheses can be either one-tailed or two tailed. In a ______-tailed hypothesis a specific effect is predicted. This is also known as a ______ hypothesis and has only one possible true outcome. In a ______- tailed hypothesis an effect is predicted but not specified. This is also known as a ______ hypothesis and has two possible outcomes.

The _____ hypothesis tells us that the ____ will not have the predicted effect on the _____. The null hypothesis always states that there will be ____ difference between conditions, regardless of whether the alternate hypothesis is one or two-tailed.

Ν	o alternate/o	experimental	hypothe	sis directio	onal	IV	one
	Non-directional	two	dependent	independent	null		DV
	Inde	pendent	variable	dependent			

For each of the following hypotheses, identify the IV and DV and decide whether it is alternate or null:

- 1) There will be no difference in the time taken to complete a jigsaw in the morning and in the evening.
- 2) People will complete a jigsaw faster after drinking coffee that after drinking a non-caffeinated drink.
- 3) There will be a negative relationship between age and ability to solve anagrams.
- 4) Eating breakfast improves performance on a reaction-time task.
- 5) Age will not affect performance on a mathematics test.

EXPERIMENTS (See experiments in the investigations section)

Definition	Advantage	Disadvantage
Lab experiment		
Field experiment		
Quasi experiment		
Independent measures design		
Repeated measures design		
Matched pairs design		

Try to identify the strengths and weaknesses of using an independent measures design to investigate the effect of the amount of light on the amount of work completed by students.



CORRELATIONS (See correlations in the investigations section)

A researcher has conducted a correlational study to investigate the relationship between how important a person thinks appearance is and how much they spend on clothes each month.

The results are in the table below:

Participants (initials)	Self-rating of importance	Amount spent on clothes
	of appearance	each month
НА	6	£80
EP	8	£120
SF	9	£100
PR	3	£110
MS	7	£75
JP	4	£35
AG	3	£15
BF	5	£50

Sketch an appropriately labelled scattergraph displaying the results of this study.

Negative correlation refers to	
Positive correlation refers to	
Advantages of correlations	
Disadvantages of correlations	

ALTERNATIVE RESEARCH METHODS (See the investigations/themes sections)

Definition	Advantages	Disadvantages
Case study		
Participant observation		
Neu neuticineut		
Non-participant observation		
Covert observation		
Overt observation		

DEBATES, THEMES AND ISSUES (See themes)

Reliability refers to...

Inter-rater reliability refers to ...

Validity refers to...

Ethnocentrism refers to ...

Explain what is meant by the nature/nurture debate

Explain what is meant by the reductionism/holism debate

 $\ensuremath{\mathsf{Explain}}$ what is meant by the individual/situational debate

Explain what is meant by the determinism/freewill debate



